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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US):
SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT [DE/DE]; Wittelsbacherplatz 2, 80333 München (DE).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **DE VEGA RODRIGO**, Miguel [ES/BE]; Av. Lambeau, 59, B-1200 Woluwe St. Lambert Brussels (BE).

(74) Common Representative: **SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT**; Postfach 22 16 34, 80506 München (DE).

(54) Title: A METHOD FOR AND APPARATUS FOR AGGREGATING INCOMING PACKETS INTO OPTICAL FOR AN OPTICAL BURST SWITCHED NETWORK

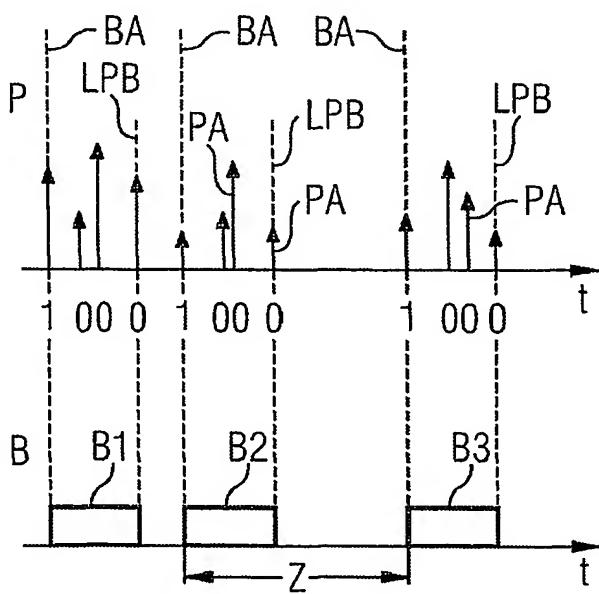
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(57) Abstract: Incoming packets are aggregated into optical bursts in an edge node of an Optical Burst Switched Network. This comprises the following steps. Storing the incoming packets to generate an optical burst. Associating each incoming packet with a generated random binary digit with a probability for a. first and a second value of the binary digit. A packet with a binary digit having the first value indicates a transition between optical bursts. Sending the optical burst with the aggregated packets when a transition is indicated by the first value.